

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

July 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed Injured	Estimated Damage Property Crops	Character of Storm
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TEXAS, North

TXZ091>095-100>107-
115>123-129>135-
141>148-156>162-
174>175

Montague - Cooke - Grayson - Fannin - Lamar - Young - Jack - Wise - Denton - Collin - Hunt - Delta - Hopkins - Stephens - Palo Pinto - Parker - Tarrant - Dallas - Rockwall - Kaufman - Van Zandt - Rains - Eastland - Erath - Hood - Somervell - Johnson - Ellis - Henderson - Comanche - Mills - Hamilton - Bosque - Hill - Navarro - Freestone - Anderson - Lampasas - Coryell - Bell - McLennan - Falls - Limestone - Leon - Milam - Robertson

01 0000CST 32 0 Excessive Heat
31 2359CST

A prolonged excessive heat event continued across north Texas in July. This heat wave was the result of existing drought conditions combined with a persistent upper level ridge of high pressure. For the month of July, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) recorded an average high of 102.4 degrees, which was the second warmest for the month on record and the fourth warmest ever. The average low of 80.8 degrees was the warmest average low for any month. The monthly average temperature of 91.6 degrees was the second warmest month on record, second only to the 92.0 degrees recorded during the heat wave in July of 1980. DFW reported 28 days with high temperatures at or above 100 degrees and 26 days with low temperatures at or above 80 degrees. The high temperature of 110 degrees reported at DFW on July 12th was the warmest high temperature recorded since July 18, 1980. In Waco, the average temperature of 90.4 degrees was the third warmest on record, with highs averaging 102.4 degrees and lows averaging 78.3 degrees. Waco also reported 26 days with highs at or above 100 degrees. The warmest high temperature for the month for north Texas was reported in Fort Worth on July 13th, when the mercury topped out at 112 degrees.

During July, the heat wave claimed at least 32 lives in north Texas, with most of the fatalities occurring in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. Most of the fatalities were elderly, and many fatalities listed other complicating factors, such as heart disease and hypertension. Below are the dates and listings of each fatality.

July 3:

An 85 year old woman was found dead in her home in east Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with hypertension and severe heart disease listed as contributing factors.

A 34 year old man collapsed and died while working on a roof in Denton. Cause of death was hyperthermia.

July 5:

A 70 year old man was found dead in his home in northwest Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease and hypertension listed as contributing factors.

July 8:

A 63 year old woman was found dead in her home in east Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with severe heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 9:

An 80 year old woman was found dead in her home in Lancaster (Dallas County). Cause of death was hyperthermia, with severe heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 10:

An 83 year old man was found alongside a road near his home in Irving (Dallas County). Cause of death was hyperthermia, with Parkinson's Disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 12:

A 59 year old man was found dead in a boarding house in east Dallas. The cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

A 37 year old man was found dead in his home in southeast Dallas County. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

An 82 year old woman was found dead in her home in the Oak Lawn area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

A 58 year old man was found dead in his home in the Pleasant Grove area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with arthritis listed as a contributing factor.

A 64 year old woman was found dead in her home in the Pleasant Grove area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease and cirrhosis listed as contributing factors.

An 83 year old man was found dead in his home in the Pleasant Grove area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with congestive heart failure and emphysema listed as contributing factors.

An 85 year old man and his 80 year old wife were found dead in their home in Sanger (Denton County). Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.

July 13:

An 85 year old woman was found dead in her home in east Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

A 62 year old man was found dead in a field in the Oak Lawn area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

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TEXAS, North

July 14:

A 75 year old man was found dead in his home in Kaufman County. Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.
A 76 year old man was found dead in his home in Denton County. Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.

July 15:

An 80 year old woman was found dead in her home in south Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a complicating factor.
An 81 year old man was found dead in Fort Worth. Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.

July 16:

A 39 year old man was collapsed and died while working on his car in Fort Worth. Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.
A 64 year old male was found dead in his home in Garland (Dallas County). Cause of death was hyperthermia, with hypertension and heart disease listed as contributing factor.
A 90 year old woman was found dead in her home in Lancaster (Dallas County). Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 17:

A 75 year old man was found dead in his home in Irving (Dallas County). Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 19:

An 83 year old woman was found dead in her home in the Knox-Henderson area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.
A 67 year old woman was found dead in her home near Fair Park in Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease and hypertension listed as contributing factors.

July 20:

A 76 year old man was found dead in his home in south Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 26:

An 87 year old woman was found dead in her home in Fort Worth. Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.

July 28:

An 87 year old woman was found dead in her home in Fort Worth. Hyperthermia was listed as a contributing factor.
A 98 year old woman was found dead in her home in the Pleasant Grove area of Dallas. Cause of death was hyperthermia, with heart disease listed as a contributing factor.

July 29:

A 48 year old man was found in his east Dallas home suffering from hyperthermia and later died at a hospital. Cause of death was hyperthermia.
F85PH, M70PH, F63PH, F80PH, M83OU, M58MH, M37MH, M59PH, F82PH, F64PH, M83PH, M62OU, F85PH, F85PH, F80PH, F90PH, M64PH, M75PH, F83PH, F67PH, M76PH, F98PH, M48PH, M34OU, F80PH, M85PH, M76PH, M75PH, M81PH, M39VE, F87PH, F80PH

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01 0000CST 0 0 0 Drought
31 2359CST

The severe drought that began across north Texas in April persisted through July. In the period from April 1, 1998 through July 31, 1998, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport was 8.18 inches below normal on rainfall, while Waco was running 9.84 inches below normal. The Drought Severity Index (Long Term, Palmer) showed north Texas under extreme drought conditions, with the Crop Moisture Index indicating extremely dry soil moisture conditions. The dry and hot conditions across north Texas placed a high stress on crops, and an increase in grasshopper infestation caused additional reductions in crop yields. Excessive heat, combined with empty stock tanks and a near total loss of the alfalfa crop, severely stressed the ranching and dairy industries.

The drought of 1998 has caused an estimated \$1.5 billion dollars damage to the agribusiness industry statewide through July. However, specific damage amounts by county in north Texas in July were unavailable.

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TEXAS, North									
Delta County Cooper	12	1605CST			0	0			Hail (1.75)
Delta County Cooper	12	1625CST			0	0	0.50K		Thunderstorm Wind
									A portable sign was blown down onto a road.
Hopkins County Sulphur Spgs	12	1700CST			0	0	20K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Thunderstorm winds unroofed houses and blew down trees and power lines.
Rains County 10 SE Emory	12	1800CST			0	0			Hail (1.00)
Ellis County Bardwell Lake	12	1839CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G69)
Navarro County Emhouse	12	1910CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Thunderstorm winds blew down trees and caused minor structural damage to buildings.
Comanche County 5 N Comanche	13	1558CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
Comanche County De Leon	14	1344CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
Bell County Pendleton	14	1645CST			0	0	15K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Two barns were blown down from thunderstorm winds.
Bell County Troy	14	1702CST			0	0	1K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Thunderstorm winds blew down a tree.
Hamilton County 5 W Hamilton	16	1412CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
Tarrant County Ft Worth	16	1415CST			0	0	10K		Thunderstorm Wind
									A food preparation warehouse had windows blown in and an exhaust stack blown off the roof.
Tarrant County North Richland Hills	16	1430CST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Thunderstorm winds blew down several power lines.
Tarrant County Blue Mound	16	1435CST			0	0	5K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Thunderstorm winds peeled off the roof from a building.
Limestone County Groesbeck	16	1718CST			0	0			Thunderstorm Wind (G52)
Limestone County Thornton	16	1718CST			0	0	2K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Power poles were blown down by thunderstorm winds.
Bosque County Meridian	17	1300CST			0	0	0.50K		Thunderstorm Wind
									Large tree limbs were blown down by thunderstorm winds.
McLennan County Lorena	17	1400CST			0	0			Hail (0.75)

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Hamilton County							
Hamilton	17	1415CST			0 0	15K	Thunderstorm Wind
							An apartment building was unroofed and powerlines were blown down from thunderstorm winds.
Mclennan County							
Woodway	17	1425CST			0 0	25K	Lightning
							A house was struck by lightning.
Bell County							
Killeen	17	1515CST			0 0	2K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Powerlines were blown down from thunderstorm winds.
Kaufman County							
Kaufman	17	1515CST			0 0	0.50K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Thunderstorm winds blew down large tree limbs.
Collin County							
1 N Royse City	17	1547CST			0 0	1K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Several trees were blown down.
Van Zandt County							
Edgewood	17	1556CST			0 0	10K	Thunderstorm Wind
							A house was unroofed by thunderstorm winds.
Anderson County							
Elkhart	17	1615CST			0 0	15K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Thunderstorm winds blew trees down onto buildings. Road signs were blown down and a small shed was blown over.
Henderson County							
Athens	17	1627CST			0 0	2K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Powerlines were blown down from thunderstorm winds.
Ellis County							
Waxahachie	17	1700CST			0 0	5K	Thunderstorm Wind
							A garage was damaged by high thunderstorm winds.
Grayson County							
Whitesboro	17	1700CST			0 0		Hail (0.75)
Coryell County							
Gatesville	18	1432CST			0 0	1K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Thunderstorm winds blew down a large tree.
Hamilton County							
10 W Hamilton	16	1419CST			0 0	1K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Thunderstorm winds blew down large trees west of Hamilton and in Pottsville.
Mclennan County							
Mc Gregor	16	1722CST			0 0	2K	Thunderstorm Wind
							Power poles were blown down by strong thunderstorm winds.